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Innovations Session N°27

Empowering Youth and Women in
Agrifood: Bridging Entrepreneurship
and Job Creation for Sustainable
Impact



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**Empowering Youth and Women in Agrifood: Bridging Entrepreneurship and
Job Creation for Sustainable Impact**

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THE PROBLEM



Lack of skilled agricultural workforce



Post-graduation, more agricultural graduates particularly women still face challenges with securing sustainable employment.



There is an urgency to implement learning frameworks that equip agricultural graduates and women with industry relevant knowledge, skills and relevant networks.

BARRIERS



Limited access to finance and startup capital

Weak employability and entrepreneurship skills

Gender-based constraints (mobility, land access, cultural norms)

Limited exposure to real agrifood workplaces

Fragmented market linkages and weak business support systems

OUR APPROACH

AgroHive is building a pipeline of skilled agricultural workforce in Africa by embedding experiential learning frameworks in its agricultural upskilling programs.

Assessments

Internships
and Team
Projects

Career
coaching
sessions

Results

1

Participants who interned for a period of time post-completion of their AgroHive courses were the most hired agricultural graduates by agri-food businesses and relevant firms.

2

Agricultural graduates reported increased confidence levels in their leadership skills and cognitive abilities.

3

Most agri-food businesses also see increased productivity levels from newly recruited talents trained by AgroHive

4

Contributes to addressing the productivity and growth challenges related to poor workforce development within the African agri-food sector.





Scalable Solutions For Africa

- **Embed experiential learning in university curricula**
- **Build agrifood entrepreneurship incubators for youth and women**
- **Strengthen digital platforms for training + market access**
- **Incentivize agrifood businesses to host interns/apprentices**
- **Support women-led agrifood SMEs with finance plus networks**
- **Align training with employer need**

Call To Action

- Partner with youth-led agrifood organizations
- Invest in experiential learning and entrepreneurship programs
- Support women's cooperatives and agrifood SMEs
- Create regional internship pipelines
- Strengthen cross-country agrifood job creation initiatives



Thank you

